

# The Fellowship of the Ring

For the past two years, Seniors have participated in the Ceremony of Rings. Before the assembled Corps of Cadets, the Faculty and the Staff, each Senior receives the ring of Camden Military Academy, a symbol of his achievement, a token of one of his life's important milestones. By making this moment a public celebration, the school recognizes and honors the individual accomplishment of each graduating cadet.

But the ring is more than a sign of individual achievement: it is also a symbol of unity and continuity. Those who put on the ring for the first time may not realize it, but they are entering into a fellowship of alumni that stretches back into the past and will continue far into the future. Each Senior joins a select group bound by a common tradition

and a common experience of brotherhood.

As Mr. Hugh Griffith, the Past President of the Camden — Carlisle Alumni Association, reminded us in last year's ceremony, the Fellowship of the Ring harkens back to J.R.R. Tolkien's great trilogy in which "the ring binds together in fellowship the creatures, great and small, of Middle Earth to fight against all dark things that are evil and dishonorable. Likewise, as alumni of this school, we are all, great and small, bound together in a similar fellowship."

Seniors, wear your rings with pride and, as you go out from Camden Military Academy, remember that you are not alone. You are members of an honorable fellowship: the Fellowship of the Ring.



Senior David Wamer explains how things are done to new cadet Charles Maynard.



Cadets on the way to class — even on the morning after Hugo.

